

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00301 061533Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AS-01

AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /084 W

-----061553Z 049281 /46

R 061500Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4138

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TRIPOLI 0301

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, LY

SUBJ: LIBYA'S NEW NAME

REF: TRIPOLI 293 AND 294

1. AFTER PERHAPS A MAJORITY OF THE DELEGATES OF THE GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS IN SEBHA EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED NAME CHANGE, COL. QADHAFI TOOK TO THE BLACKBOARD TO SHED LIGHT ON THE NEED FOR A NEW NAME. JAMBOUR, HE WROTE IN ARABIC, MEANT MASS AND BY ADDING THE SUFFIX THE WORD JAMHOURIYYAH OR REPUBLIC WAS FORMED. HE THEN WROTE THE WORD JAMAHIR WHICH HE EXPLAINED WAS THE PLURAL OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FIRST WORD AND MEANT MASSES. WHY, THEREFORE, COULD NOT THIS WORD BE SUFFIXED TO APPROPRIATELY DESCRIBE THE BIRTH IN THE DESERT OF THE NEW ERA OF THE AGE OF MASSES. HE QUOTED FROM AN ANCIENT GREEK HISTORIAN THAT "FROM LIBYA NEW THINGS EMERGED." THE DESERT, HE SAID, AFTER ALL WAS NOT TOTALLY BARREN OR ARID BECAUSE IT WAS GIVING BIRTH TO A NEW AND FINAL FORM OF DEMO-

CRACY WHICH PERHAPS, HE SAID, HAD NOT EXISTED SINCE THE DAYS OF THE ANCIENT GREEKS. CONTINUED QADHAFI, IT WAS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE THAT A NEW WORD SHOULD COME INTO THE LANGUAGE TO DESCRIBE THIS EVENT. DUE RECOGNITION ALSO HAD TO BE GIVEN TO THE POPULAR AND SOCIALISTIC NATURE OF THIS NEW POLITICAL STRUCTURE. ACCORDINGLY, HE PROCLAIMED, LIBYA WOULD HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS "AL-JAMAHIRIYYAH AL-'ARABIYYAH AL-LIBIYYAH AL-SHA'BIYYAH AL-ISHTIRAKIYYAH." OR LIBYAN ARAB PEOPLES SOCIALIST ENTITY OF THE MASSES.(?)

2. LIBYA MAY HAVE A NEW NAME BUT THUS FAR IT DEFIES TRANSLATION. EVEN THE LIBYAN MEDIA HAS NOT RISEN TO THE OCCASION. THE ENGLISH REDITION OF THE MEDIA IS LIBYAN ARAB PEOPLES' SOCIALIST JAMAHIRIYYAH OR FOR SHORT THE LIBYAN JAMAHIRIYYAH OR EVEN THE JAMAHIRIYYAH. ARABIC SCHOLARS IN THIS AND OTHER EMBASSIES ARE PUTTING FORWARD SUCH SUGGESTIONS (FOR JAMAIRIAYYAH) AS MASSESISM OR MASSES STATE. WE ARE INCLINED, HOWEVER, TO FOLLOW THE LEAD OF THE MEDIA AND ATTEMPT NO TRANSLATION.
CARLE

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NNN

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